

DRAFT MINUTES
ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES
SCAN COMMITTEE MEETING

Chair: Diane Scruggs, Co-Chair Cynthia Savage-Brown

February 20, 2019

9:30 a.m. until 12:00 noon

JRTC, 100 West Randolph Street, Room 275, 6th Floor, Chicago and/or
DCFS, 406 East Monroe Street, Video Conf. Room, 7th Floor, Springfield
Teleconference #: 1- 888-494-4032 Access Code: 3563748544

1. **Call to order:** Cynthia Savage called the meeting to order.

1-Alicen McGowen (phone), 2-Judy Bradley (phone), 3-Mary Jane Forney (phone), 4-Cynthia Savage (Chicago), 5-Denise McCaffrey (phone), 6-Ann Duel (phone), 7-Mary Hardy Hall (Springfield), 8-Joe Hemphill (Chicago), 9-Diane Scruggs (Chicago), 10-Alice Staley (phone), 11-Veatrice Crawford (phone), 12-Anne Gold (Chicago), 13-Linda Moore (Chicago)
2. **Review and approval of December Meeting Minutes** - Mary Jane made the motion and Alicen seconded the motion, the minutes were approved unanimously.
3. **Status of DCFS-** Anne Gold explained that BJ Walker ended her role of Director last Friday. The governor will appoint a new person. For now, Debra Dyer (former DCFS Chief of Staff) is filling in temporarily. She has filled many administrative positions previously. A national search company is looking for a new director. It could be days or months until the position is filled. The State of Illinois budget announcement is today at noon. A discussion was held regarding the changing top Illinois officials since Governor Pritzker took office.
4. **Access to D-Net-** no report, Michelle Davis not available.
5. **Status of Tax Check Off-** no report, Michelle Davis not available.
6. **National Conference-** An email was sent to the members asking that anyone who wished to attend the National Conference should reply and let us know. Veatrice Crawford has expressed interest in attending. The Child Death Review Team (CDRT) normally does not send anyone and Diane is asking them if SCAN could have their slot. Diane serves on the CDRT. Cynthia wants to see the topics for the Conference in case we need to prepare for the meeting. Veatrice confirmed that she still wants to attend this. ***Linda will work with Veatrice on the out of state travel request document submission.** Diane will try to represent CDRT at the National Conference.

Other- The members still need to appoint a neonatal specialist to meet the statutory requirements of SCAN. ***Diane will work on this.**

The Annual File Review spreadsheet has only been available to those attending in person due to confidentiality rules. The members should look for any system changes, any policy changes, training

issues, any consistency in how investigations were handled, seeing any trends in how work was done, and read though. ***Diane asked the members to then prepare their comments and email them to Diane before the March 15th.** Linda will redact as needed to protect confidentiality. She will send it to Diane to distribute. Diane asked that the file review summary be sent out by Friday. By the April meeting we plan to have a compiled list of comments for a summary.

7. Announcements –

Cynthia has changed employment positions.

Alicen reported on the Governor's council work on the status of the Child Sex offenders list. The only required mandated reporter in the Catholic Church is the clergy. They want everyone who works with children in the Catholic Church to be mandated reporters. Diane requested that Alicen give us a written synopsis on this before SCAN could give their full support. Mary Hardy-Hall started a child sex abuse group in the prison. Alicen said this is the Romeo and Juliet legislation. The sex offender list needs to have gradients. An example of low gradient is public urination. Diane asked if any of the new legislators would be willing to help with this. How should we approach them? Would the new governor be supportive of this? Veatrice suggests we research the other states that have done this to provide the governor background information. The Juvenile Court act is also related to this. How many cases would this alleviate in the Juvenile courts?

In the October 2018 minutes, there is a Future Meeting to Do List. Linda read these out loud for review purposes. Diane summarized them as the following standing agenda items:

- A. Legislation
- B. Quarterly review panel meetings
- C. DCFS status updates
- D. Governor's Advisory group update and tax-check-off.

Diane advised the members that identification cards are likely not going to be made available for members. After we have a new Director we will ask about ID's for SCAN members and ask for the director's attendance.

A member asked about the topic for the October file review? Diane then asked what are investigators seeing lately. The group discussed a recent 2-year-old death in the news with prior DCFS involvement.

Ann Deuel asked if there are any systemic issues that are leading to the prevalence of young child death that has been in the news lately. Anne said most of deaths are co-sleeping deaths. Despite DCP telling parents not to co-sleep and providing pack and play cribs, the client is still co-sleeping. CDRT does not see many violent death cases. The newspapers highlight these cases. If this committee had funds, a public service message would be of interest.

8. Public comments-none.

9. Adjourned at 11:10 am. Next meeting is April 17, 2019.